

The Sydney Morning Herald.

SYDNEY, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1917.

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SUMMARY.

There has not been much activity on the West front, the weather having been wet and stormy. The prisoners captured in the Ypres attack and in subsequent operations, total 65.

French communists assert that artillery was used in the north parts of Bapaume, Bapaume, and in infantry actions.

Two more attacks against the trench were reported. French south of Aix-en-Sainte-Viette, and British south of Aix-en-Sainte-Viette on Saturday were reported.

The German directed artillery fire at the whole of Ginchy. Two civilians were killed and one wounded.

French aeroplanes carried out a bombardment on the British front.

In regard to the enemy's bombardment of Nancy and the region north of Paris, two Regia aeronautica bombed Frankfort. The Germans, in their official report, state that two French attacks at Ginchy broke through.

Mr. Philip Gibbs, describing the fighting at Neuve-Chapelle, says that it was the artillery that decided the issue.

Our guns annihilated two battalions of the enemy concentrated in the Neuve-Chapelle area," he writes.

Russian communists state that, following a stubborn attack, the Romanians returned to their positions.

Russian communists capture an enemy post on the Buhra River, and took a number of prisoners.

The Germans, in their official reports, claim to have taken 1,000 prisoners, 18 canons, and 81 machine guns.

There is said to be a danger of the enemy ever regaining Neuve-Chapelle. Romanian prisoners are held in Romanian hands.

A squadron of twenty enemy aeroplanes made a raid on English coast towns on Sunday.

Bombs were dropped over Southend, Rochdale, and Macclesfield.

Considerable damage was done at Southend, where 20 persons were killed and 50 injured.

Official statistics received in New York state that the Germans in Germany and Austria-Hungary are most serious.

The "Daily Chronicle" (London) correspondent says a change in the attitude of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council.

Formerly the members demanded that the Bolsheviks' conference should consider peace without annexation.

We are now regaining the Russian front and are endeavouring to establish our armament and re-establishing our fighting power.

The council has summoned a conference with a view to utilising the whole forces of democracy to resist the invasion.

It is stated that the Allies are to hold conferences to harmonise plans and co-ordinate efforts on all fronts.

There is no improvement whatever in the strike situation.

Mr. Miller says his resolutions carried by the miners are perfectly plain the矿工的决议是完全清楚的。

The miners, he declares, part of a pre-arranged effort to challenge the Government's right to control State affairs.

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ROUMANIA'S PEACE CONFERENCE DANGER.

ENEMY'S ATTACK ON MOLDAVIA.

GOVERNMENT REMOVED TO RUSSIA.

LONDON, Aug. 13.

A very critical position has developed on the Romanian frontier on the Moldavian line. There is a danger of the enemy overrunning Moldavia, the Romanian province still in Romanian hands.

General von Mackensen's success in driving back the Romanians on Maraschek's front threatens to cut off the retreat of the Romanians who are fighting at Moen. It may also allow the invaders to secure the grain crop in Eastern Moldavia.

The Romanian king and Government have quit Jassy the chief town of Moldavia where they have been since they were driven from Bucharest and have gone to Russia.

RUSSIAN. ISSUED 5.5 P.M.

Following stubborn attacks the Romanians retired to Orla along the Emile-Mesnager road, and west of Gorodosec. Superior enemy forces attacked the Foc-sans-Miercure railway. We counter-attacked and took 2000 prisoners.

Later we retured to the Irecchi and Furts line.

We captured an enemy position at the south of the Buzau River.

GERMAN. SUNDAY, ISSUED 8.35 P.M.

South of the Trotus Valley we captured a dominating height and the village of Gorodosec.

The Russians and Romanians fruitlessly attacked between the Sereth and the Agindu-Nest railway. We took 6700 prisoners, 18 cannon, and 81 machine-guns.

WORKMEN'S ATTITUDE CHANGING.

The Petrograd correspondent of the "Daily Chronicle" says:—"A significant change is apparent in the attitude of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council. Formerly the conference demanded that the Stockholm Conference should consider peace without annexations and indemnities, and in insisting that the Red Guard must not be shed for furthering the imperialistic aims of the Western Allies. They are now realising that Russian freedom is endangered, and are endeavouring to re-establish the army's fighting power by appeals, articles, speeches, and resolutions, declared that this is now the supreme question. The Council has summoned a conference of trade-unions, and military and naval organisations with a view to mobilising the whole forces of democracy to repel the invasion. There is an increase in recruiting, in the subscriptions to the Liberty Loan, and in the output of munitions and food supplies.

COMMANDER LOCKER-LAMPSON

Commander Locker-Lampson, M.P., the officer in charge of the British armoured car detachment on the Russian front, has been appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George.

ENEMY SPY SYSTEM.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12. A despatch from Mexico City says that a secret espionage station has been discovered on the Lighthouse of Lobos Island, off the north-east coast of Cuba. It is believed to be that it is a German information station. It was so situated that it could easily learn and transmit the sailings of the Allied ships from the port of Havana. The light-house authorities immediately explained that the Germans were conducting a strong anti-American propaganda in the station, and was arrested.

The "New York Times" Mexico city correspondent states that a new pirate ship was discovered in the Gulf of Mexico. A wireless station was found hidden among the hills at the mouth of the Champion River. Members of the government said that the German Socialists will probably not attend.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

BOMBS ON WATERING PLACES.

The Press Bureau announces:—"A squadron of 20 enemy aeroplanes was reported off the coast of Mexico on Sunday afternoon. Five bombs were dropped on the watering places of the Champion River, where the British and American troops are encamped. The Germans are conducting a strong anti-American propaganda in Mexico."

THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

It is reported from Amsterdam that the Berlin paper "Local Advertiser" considers it likely that the German Emperor is to be the German Emperor, and published in Mr. Gerard's book, is not authentic. The "Dolomites Gazette" says there is no reason to doubt that it is authentic. Both urge the Government to inquire whether the German Emperor wrote such a document, and if so, that it is to be considered as non-authentic.

The revelations are making a painful impression throughout Germany. The German censorship withheld their publication for six days.

ALLIED CONFERENCES.

The Washington correspondent of the "New York Times" has learned that the Allies soon begin to hold a series of conferences for the purpose of harmonising plans and co-ordinating efforts on all fronts, and also to plan more aggressive naval action.

NEW GERMAN MINISTRY.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12. Despatches received from Zurich state that Philip Scheidemann, leader of the German Socialists, in a speech at a socialist conference at Marheim, said that the new German Cabinet did not please everyone, and that he himself was disappointed. He had hoped to see a work better organised than the present one, and the most important thing was to be better prepared for the war.

The "Philadelphia Public Ledger" has published the first instalment of a book by Mr. Philip Scheidemann, former Minister of Finance in Berlin, which contains an autographed facsimile of the German Emperor's cable to the Emperor on August 10, 1914, in which he gave his support to the war. This is the first publication of the cablegram. The German Emperor admits a certain degree of originality in neutrality as far as the war is concerned.

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THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

The Washington correspondent of the "New York World" says that the feeble progress of Germany toward the adoption of a complete parliamentary system has suffered a crushing defeat in the recent election, the only remaining hope. The battle of the Reichstag, the seat of the German Parliament, is the last bastion of the old régime. The result is that the party of the Reichstag, the Socialists, who were recently appointed to the Federal Council, should also sit in the Reichstag collapsed and run for re-election to the Reichstag. The newspapers express regret that Austria and Hungary prisoners in this neutral country are permitted to sit from their country to the most daring angles. A whole host was soon circling and awaiting the enemy, who, refusing the challenge, made off at his greatest speed.

Only the most brief glance of the enemy was obtained on the south side of the river, where the anti-aircraft guns were taking every movement of the German soldiers. There is much air fighting. German planes are coming on bombing adventures over our camps and villages. The enemy, apparently, wishes to make this battle the decisive one of the war. He is in his own farm after the loss of Wilhem and Westhock Ridge; but he is out to kill, regardless of his losses.

Hundreds of visitors at every threatened resort rushed to the front at the first warning, and watched the developments with absolute composure.

WESTERN FRONT BAD WEATHER AGAIN

LONDON, Aug. 13. The principal announced in the communiques is that there has been more wet and stormy weather on the Western front, which will, of course, further interfere with military operations.

BRITISH. SUNDAY, ISSUED 2.30 P.M.

The weather has been wet and stormy.

Fighting has occurred for the possession of a mine crater east of Givichy, near La Bassse. We established ourselves on the lip of a crater and drove off a counter-attack.

Enemy artillery is active east and north of Ypres.

SUNDAY, ISSUED 11.25 P.M.

The prisoners captured in the Ypres attack on Friday, and in subsequent operations now total 454. Six guns were also captured.

The Portuguese repulsed a raid south of Armentières.

We brought down three aeroplanes and drove down four others. Five of our machines have not returned.

FRENCH. SUNDAY, ISSUED 4.30 P.M.

Artillery engagements have occurred on both Bixhooft, but no infantry actions. We completely recovered the elements and trenches captured by the Germans east of Fayet on Thursday last.

Two enemy attacks, one of which was most violent, against a trench we won yesterday south of Ailles were repelled with serious enemy loss. We held all the positions, and made further progress during the night.

Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down.

In reprisal for the enemy's bombardment of Nancy and the region north of Paris, two French aeroplanes bombed Frankfurt on the Main. Both airmen returned unharmed.

SUNDAY, ISSUED 11.35 P.M.

In Belgium the artillery duel is somewhat violent.

The Germans directed artillery fire at the whole of Reims. Two civilians were killed and one wounded.

Our aeroplanes carried out a bombardment on the Belgian front on Friday night and yesterday, their objectives including enemy barracks north of the forest of Houthulst, and railway stations at Cortemarck and Plichtweide. Fire and violent explosions were observed at Plichtweide.

The aviation ground at Colmar was shelled.

GERMAN. SUNDAY, ISSUED 8.35 P.M.

Two French attacks at Cerny broke down.

THE WESTHOEK BATTLE.

PARIS, Aug. 12. After seven hours' discussion the Administrative Committee of the Socialist party adopted M. Briand's resolution and decided to withdraw from the Stockholm Conference, not to seek entry to the Workers' and Soldiers' Council.

Meetings of workers in Sheffield and the British Workers League in Newcastle have declared that participation in the Stockholm Conference will be playing straight into the enemy's hands. The meetings urged the Government to prevent British delegates attending.

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WHAT GERMANY FEARS.

It has been semi-officially announced in Berlin that, if a discussion on the responsibility for the war is placed on the agenda of the Stockholm conference, the German Socialists will probably not attend.

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LATE WAR NEWS.

WESTERN FRONT.

LONDON, Aug. 13. A British communiqué issued at 1.15 p.m. says: "There is nothing special to report."

U BOAT CAPTURE.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13. The Navy Department has announced that an American tank steamer, Campagna, was sunk by a U boat. Eight of the crew were put off at Le D'Or. 57 survivors have been landed. It is believed that the boat's captain and four gunners are imprisoned on the U boat, and it is feared that a fate similar to that meted out to Captain Fryatt is intended for them.

STEAMER MATUNGA OVERDUE.

MELBOURNE, Monday.

The Navy Office announces that there is cause for grave anxiety as to the fate of the steamer Matunga (Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co.), which left Sydney on July 26 bound for Rabaul direct.

The Matunga was last heard of on August 5, when at about 5 p.m. the steamer was expected to arrive at Rabaul at 2.30 a.m. on August 7.

Since that message was received nothing has been heard of her.

She is believed to be off Woodlark Island at that time. When the vessel became overdue arrangements were at once made to organise a search for her, and the Matunga, another of Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co.'s ships, was sent to Rabaul direct.

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Passengers were put aboard the waiting steamer *Sterling* and brought to Sydney, while Mr. Wyndham continued on to Melbourne.

The *Wyndham* had been unable to get passengers off the vessels on the tugs was skilfully carried out. The sea at the time was slight and a light south-easterly wind was blowing.

MR. JUSTICE HIGGINS'S COMMENT.

MELBOURNE, Monday.—Mr. Justice Higgins to-day decided that he would not further at the present time accept the application by the *Wyndham* for a writ of habeas corpus for a variation of the award of the Arbitration Court to provide for increased remuneration. Having given his opinion to the court, the *Wyndham* will be refused by the court to have its refusal to the application by the *Wyndham* to be set aside.

The *Wyndham* has been advised that the Arbitration Court will not accept the application by the *Wyndham* to have its refusal to the application by the *Wyndham* to be set aside.

SHIP PAINTERS AND DOCKERS.

DISORDERLY MEETING.

A special stop-work meeting of the Ship Painters and Dockers Union was held at the Trades Hall yesterday afternoon. There were about 1000 present, and it was one of the largest stop-work meetings held since the present industrial dispute began.

A number of addresses were delivered, and various speakers were heard. In general, the Minster proposed to do what he could to carry on the business of the country. That is what it was done. The position of the Government in the hands of the present Administration, we shall to the utmost, of our endeavour to carry on all business, particularly to load and discharge those ships which are required to import foodstuffs and other necessary products for the Empire and her allies. I venture to say that in this endeavour we shall have the support of the majority of the people.

The unions in New South Wales,

in a full endeavour to dispel the weakness of the union upon unionism. I do not think that this will decide even the most credulous person for one moment.

But in my mind, there is no doubt whatever between all sections of society, dealing even-handed justice to all men, taking away from none the privileges he enjoyed in the past, and giving to all men, including volunteers and non-combatants, the rights and opportunities of the front seats, as they were the last to leave. They trooped out, singing with great loyalty and solidarity for ever, for union makes strong."

An official of the union, interviewed at the termination of the meeting, said that the members of the Painters and Dockers Union were unanimously in favour of the proposal of the Minster.

Referring to the meeting, the Defence Committee stated: "Our 1000 members have decided to call a meeting to-morrow. The decision to cease work until the card system is withdrawn will be carried for the time being."

Mr. N. E. Mort, president of the unionisation committee, said:

"MORT'S DOCK."

Mr. F. P. Frankel, general manager of Mort's Dock and Engineering Company, said that the Minster had not been officially advised that the painters and dockers had decided to cease work. "But if it is true," he added, "I will heartily endorse the action of the union. Ships cannot be docked, and that will mean that a large number of people will be thrown out of employment."

STRIKE IN VICTORIA.

WHARF-LABOURERS OUT.

MELBOURNE, Monday.—The Wharf Labourers' Union to-day declared a strike of its members throughout Victoria.

All shipping will be suspended, and the wharf labourers will only permit transports to be loaded and unloaded.

Two officials of the union left for Sydney to-day in a motor car. This morning wharf labourers engaged in portering and carrying goods only in one central place instead of at the stow of the various shipping companies, to be picked up in gangs. Nearly 1000 men, constituting the Acting Premier of New South Wales, are on the stand he has taken in the handling of the strike in that State.

PRIME MINISTER. FIRM ATTITUDE. GOVERNMENT WILL LOAD SHIPS.

MELBOURNE, Monday.—What informed the Minster at his office that the wharf labourers in Melbourne had decided to cease work, the Prime Minister (Mr. Hughes) again warned them that the Ministry would use all of its power to enforce responsible behaviour.

The trouble arose over the dismissal of three men by the Meat Industry Board. These men were known as yardmen, and had been employed for about 20 years, but the superintendent of the sale yards dismissed him, and refused yesterday to give him a reference to the workers' delegation from the Butchermen's Union, to which the men belong, was present, and threatened a strike.

At the time it had been decided, owing to the uncertainty of what might happen at any moment, to sell only half the cattle and sheep yards. Yesterday, however, two sheep and about 600 head of cattle were so empty air. They have lent themselves to this conspiracy against the general welfare of the country. In so far as what it amounts to, it is very deeply deplored that the three men were reinstated by the Meat Board, as cattle or sheep would be destroyed if they were not.

It is to be hoped that their assurances that the removal was disastrous for the Government may be accepted, and that they will return to work.

Mr. Hughes was asked what the Ministry proposed to do to carry on the business of the country. That is what it was done.

He said: "The position of the Government in the hands of the present Administration, we shall to the utmost, of our endeavour to carry on all business, particularly to load and discharge those ships which are required to import foodstuffs and other necessary products for the Empire and her allies. I venture to say that in this endeavour we shall have the support of the majority of the people.

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QUEENSLAND FARMERS READY.

MELBOURNE, Monday.—At the sittings of the central executive of the Queensland Farmers' Union to-day, a motion was carried protesting against the wages of wharf labourers and their kindred bodies were lower than pre-war rates of pay, resulting from the fact that the case of the primary producer to the same extent, and in some cases, greater than in the case of the labourer.

In the event of the strike of wharf labourers coming to Queensland, the president will be empowered to advertise the members to help in shipping and carrying general, and to establish the principle of work to earn.

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